

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SMS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5841
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, UR, US, SHUM
SUBJECT: SOVIET MEDIA FOCUSES ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHINA

REF: MOSCOW 19481

1. SOVIETS' ONGOING CAMPAIGN IN HUMAN RIGHTS AREA, USUALLY SET IN ANTI-U.S. CONTEXT, ESTABLISHES ANOTHER FRONT IN THE FORM OF LONG, DETAILED "DOCUMENTATION" OF PRC HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN AUGUST 18 IZVESTIYA COMMENTARY "CHINA AND HUMAN RIGHTS" BY V. KASSIS

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(ASSUME DEPT. HAS FULL FBIS TEXT). ARTICLE FOLLOWS
AUGUST 15, NEW YORK DATELINED TASS ARTICLE'S ACCUSATION (REPORTED REFTEL) THAT PRESIDENT CARTER IS CAREFULLY SKIRTING HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AS IT RELATES TO CHINA. ARTICLE DOES NOT MENTION U.S. DIRECTLY, BUT ECHO OF SOVIET ANTI-U.S. CRITICISM ON HUMAN RIGHTS APPEARS IN KASSIS' CONCLUDING STATEMENT THAT

PEKING'S LEADERS "CONFER ON THEMSELVES THE RIGHT TO SPEAK ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN OTHER COUNTRIES" TO FAN THE "COLD WAR." "PEKING'S INFLAMMATORY POLICY," ARTICLE ASSERTS, "WILL MEET WITH A GROWING REBUFF FROM THE DIRECTION OF ALL HONEST PEOPLE OF THE WORLD."

2. IN THEIR PRIVATE COMMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, SOVIET CONTACTS HAVE OF LATE INCREASINGLY CITED THE LACK OF U.S. ATTENTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PRC AS EVIDENCE THAT U.S. HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY IS PRIMARILY AN ANTI-SOVIET VEHICLE. TO DATE, HOWEVER, THE SOVIET MEDIA HAS BEEN RELATIVELY INACTIVE ON THE CHINA HUMAN RIGHTS THEME (REFTEL). THE EXTENSIVE "DOCUMENTATION" OFFERED BY KASSIS MAY MARK THE BEGINNING OF A NEW PROPAGANDA THEME DIRECTED AT THE PRC AS WELL AS THE U.S. TOON

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Message Attributes

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